

Message Text

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61

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 SAB-01 IO-14 DRC-01 /144 W

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R 201700Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3263

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 4592

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA OVIP SA MO

SUBJECT: SAQQAF VISIT TO MOROCCO

REF: JIDDA 5410

1. SAUDI MIN STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS SAQQAF VISITED MOROCCO SEPT 18-19. SAQQAF SAW KING HASSAN TO PASS MESSAGE FROM KING FAYSAL, REPORTEDLY ON PALESTINIAN QUESTION. FOLLOWING MEETING WITH KING, SAQQAF COMMENTED RE SAHARA, ACCORDING PRESS, THAT THIS IS ARAB AND MOROCCAN TERRITORY WHICH WOULD VERY SOON BE LIBERATED AND REATTACHED TO MOTHER COUNTRY MOROCCO. HE HOPED THERE WOULD BE NO MISUNDERSTANDING ON THIS ISSUE AT UN AMONG ARAB STATES. SAQQAF ALSO MET WITH FONMIN LARAKI AND DISCUSSED, AMONG OTHER THINGS, LIBERATION OF SAHARA AND "SAFEGUARDING OF TRADITIONAL SPANISH-MOROCCAN FRIENDSHIP."

2. COMMENT: GOM PREDICTABLY PLAYED UP SAHARAN ASPECT OF VISIT, CONFIDENTIAL

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AND SHOULD BE PLEASED WITH SAQQAF'S RELATIVELY STRONG

PRO-MOROCCAN COMMENTS. (IN THIS CONNECTION, KING AT SEPT
17 PRESS CONFERENCE MENTIONED SAUDI ARABIA AS POSSIBLE ADVOCATE
FOR MOROCCO SHOULD SAHARA ISSUE BE REFERRED TO ARAB LEAGUE
LEGAL MECHANISM.)

3. SAUDI EMB MINISTER REMARKED TO DCM BEFOREHAND THAT
SAQQAF VISIT SHOULD BE VIEWED IN CONTEXT SPECIAL SAUDI RELATIONSHIP
WITH MOROCCO AND KING FAYSAL'S LIKING FOR KING HASSAN.
SAUDI SOURCE ALSO SID HE THOUGHT U.S. SHOULD FURNISH ARMS
TO MOROCCO, ON WHICH POINT DCM NOTED USG FINANCING
LIMITATION OF \$40 MILLION FOR AFRICA, SUGGESTING SAUDI ARABIA
COULD THEREFORE ALSO BE HELPFUL TO MOROCCO ON THIS MATTER.
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